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SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Oct. 10, CHINWAN: British str., 1,055. F. Phillips, Bangkok 4th Oct., General—TUNNELL.

FAT HOK.

Oct. 11, CHINGMING: Chinese steamer, 524. H. Crowley, Chaofo 4th Oct., General C. E. & M. Co.

Oct. 12, CHORTUNG: British str., 1,194. R. G. D. Swatow 7th Oct., and Swatow 10th.

Oct. 11, CHAM: British steamer, 2,300. Davis Batson 25th Aug., Petroleum—SHAW & CO.

Oct. 11, LYMEWOOD: German steamer, 1,238. G. Heimann, London 11th Oct., General—BENNETT & CO.

Oct. 11, MACAO: British str., 1,227. T. Golding, CARLILL & CO.

Oct. 11, PARKER: British steamer, 118. Raymond, Amy 9th Oct., General—CHINA.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBORMASTER'S OFFICE.

AIR MAIL.

Independent, British str., for Shantung.

Indigo, British str., for Yokohama.

DEPARTURE.

Oct. 11, AEG: Danish str., for Holbow.

Oct. 11, GLENARTNEY: Brit. str., for Shanghai.

Oct. 11, PRALM: British str., for Shanghai.

Oct. 11, YUEN-SANG: British str., 1,000. Amy.

Oct. 11, PAKHAN: French str., for Swatow.

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Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

We do not accept communications that have appeared in other papers first will be inserted.

Orders for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication; after that hour the supply is limited.

Teleg. Address, Press

P. O. Box 50.

Telephone No. 12.

## MARRIAGE.

On the 10th instant, at the Union Church, by the Rev. G. H. Bondfield, GEORGE PHILLIPS, eldest son of G. E. LANEY, of Hongkong, to KATE MACKENZIE, second daughter of A. G. ARTHUR, of Hongkong.

(225)

## Daily Press.

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 12TH, 1893.

The September issue of the *United Service Magazine* contains an interesting article by Lieut.-Colonel E. G. BARKER, commanding the Hongkong Regiment, on "Military Japan." During a recent visit to that charming country, Colonel Barker, who, as is well known, is a thorough soldier, took the opportunity afforded him to thoroughly examine the Japanese military system. In doing this he received the most cordial assistance of the Japanese Minister for War, Count OYAMA, and was thus enabled to see the troops of all arms on parade and in barracks, and to go through the latter and see the organization of every department. The gallant Colonel went to Japan with an open mind, and did not expect to find much in the army to astonish him. This, however, is the result of his observations:— "I came to Japan expecting to see some miserable 'pavvy' of a third-rate European soldier; instead, I find an army in every sense of the word admirably organised, splendidly equipped, thoroughly drilled, and—strangest thing of all in an Oriental people—thoroughly and honestly administered." Colonel BARKER has nothing but praise for the barracks, which he says he found, though it was a pouring wet day and the barrackyard a sea of mud, most scrupulously clean and neat. Everywhere order and cleanliness were conspicuous and the men all looked cheerful and happy. The workshops were remarkable. Not only are saddles and harness, boats and caps, repaired in the workshops, but new issues are made up. And this, too, in spite of the fact that most of the soldiers are peasants; but, as the Colonel remarks, "the Jap is a born artisan," and almost any conscript may be made a "tailor or a saddler." The kitchens are models of cleanliness, and the storerooms for completeness and arrangements cannot be surpassed by anything in Europe. In the stable the same order and cleanliness are apparent. The buildings are large, lofty, and well drained, with stalls for each horse, and a wooden label over each stall showing the animal's age and other details. Colonel BARKER was present at a parade of troops on the great parade ground close to the Imperial Guard Barracks at Tokyo. There were on the ground two batteries of field artillery, one battery of mountain artillery, one regiment of cavalry, and four battalions of infantry. In every case the commanding officer asked the Emperor what he would like to see, so that, as the gallant Colonel says, "there was no

"eye-wash or execution of set movements, but a practical display of what the men could really do." And this is the conclusion. Colonel BARKER arrived at after two hours' careful scrutiny of what he witnessed: "The infantry were very good, better even than some European infantry I could name; the artillery good, or at least fair; and the cavalry indifferent." The latter is not to be wondered at, the Colonel adds, for the Japanese are not an equestrian race, the Japanese thighs ill adapted for the saddle, and the Japanese horses lack those good charging qualities, having neither speed nor weight. Of the personnel of the troops Colonel BARKER also speaks most favourably. They are short, but not shorter than the renowned little Goths, and quite as sturdy looking. In fact, their physique leaves little to be desired, and the military hospitals are nearly empty. He then visited the Tokyo Arsenal, where they have the best machinery and are now engaged in providing the army with a magazine rifle, an adaptation of the Mauser pattern, a bolt-action rifle with the magazine under the barrel. As in every other military establishment, the utmost order and cleanliness prevailed in the Arsenal. There are, of course, some shortcomings in the Japanese army, and Colonel BARKER points out that the senior and superior officers are wanting in the early training and experience in subordinate positions so essential to the formation of good commanders, and the professional education of all ranks is somewhat superficial. Nevertheless the progress made in the past twenty-five years must, he says, strike all unprejudiced observers as something truly astonishing. "The staff that could in so short a time have produced results so marvellous must be composed of men of rare intelligence and ability, and the existence of such a staff proves the capacity of the Japanese race for producing in course of time a corps of officers which will be fully equal to modern requirements."

Having given his very decided opinion that the Japanese army is a force to be reckoned with, Colonel BARKER proceeds:—"The next point to consider is the object with which this army is maintained. There is probably no country in the world where the population is more orderly, peaceable, and law-abiding, nor anywhere causes likely to produce civil disorder or open rebellion. Consequently it is not for the repression of the lower orders nor for the security of the Imperial régime that this large and efficient army is maintained, but solely with reference to the foreigner. Japan is determined never to lose her independence, and with the fate of other Eastern countries before her eyes, she knows that absolute security from attack lies only in a strong and efficient army and navy. Already she has secured that object; for there is no single power that could successfully invade Japan. Great Britain might, perhaps, destroy her navy and bombard her ports, but probably no other Power could effect even as much as this, so that practically Japan is now as invulnerable as England itself." But Colonel BARKER believes that Japan has other aspirations beyond that of providing for self-defence and the maintenance of her insularity. He goes on to say:—"Japan has still another reason for maintaining an army which, at first sight, may seem disproportionate to her requirements. Rightly or wrongly, she considers she has a supreme interest in the reversal of Korea and the western shores of the Sea of Japan. She knows her claims and her interests in that direction will be opposed by those of both China and Russia, and she is determined to be prepared to uphold her own rights when the hour comes. The Korean question will certainly be mixed up with the larger question of Russian supremacy in the waters of the North Pacific, in which England herself will be directly interested, so that there are many combinations more improbable than an alliance with some future time between England and Japan for the settlement of this question; and Japanese statesmen are quite aware that such an alliance will only be sought for, and will only be productive of useful results, if they can offer tangible and effective aid in the shape of efficient troops capable of waging war in accordance with the principles of modern warfare. Regarded from this point of view, the Japanese army is a very important factor in the policy of Eastern Asia, and one which should not be lost sight of. Japan is powerless to assert her rights alone and unaided against Russia, while England alone might find the destruction of Vladivostok a task demanding too great a strain on her resources; but the Anglo-Japanese alliance would sweep Russia from the shores of the Pacific." We are not in the secret of Japanese policy, but may express a sincere hope that Japan will not allow herself ever to be drawn into a policy of attempted annexation in Korea. She has by her enterprise and activity acquired the lion's share of the foreign trade of the Hermit Kingdom, which she well deserved to keep, but its retention would not be worth fighting for, and the acquisition of any territorial rights on the mainland would be as embarrassing for her as the possession of Normandy would prove to England.

With a good deal of the concluding paragraph of Colonel BARKER's interesting paper we fully concur. It runs as follows:—"Great Britain, in common with other European States, pays great regard to the 'susceptibilities and pretensions of an effete and corrupt Government like that of China, and it has become the fashion to regard the Chinese factor, as it is called, with some apprehension; but no one who knows the helplessness of the Imperial Government, or who has seen the ignorant antipathy of the Chinese for all 'barbarians,' can suppose that an alliance with China is ever to be relied on, or that China would prove a really formidable antagonist. On the other hand, little is said or thought of Japan as a factor in the problems of the Far East; yet it is, I firmly believe, the sword of Japan which will in the final conflict be thrown into the scale and decide the issue against the colonial but unwieldy Power which threatens the freedom of the Pacific."

"While joining with Colonel BARKER in interpreting the often suggested Anglo-Chinese alliance, which we regard as equally impolitic and unnatural, it would be unsafe to hastily accept the gallant officer's estimate of the power of China. She is, both effects and character of what he witnessed: "The infantry were very good, better even than some European infantry I could name; the artillery good, or at least fair; and the cavalry indifferent." The latter is not to be wondered at, the Colonel adds, for the Japanese are not an equestrian race, the Japanese thighs ill adapted for the saddle, and the Japanese horses lack those good charging qualities, having neither speed nor weight. Of the personnel of the troops Colonel BARKER also speaks most favourably. They are short, but not shorter than the renowned little Goths, and quite as sturdy looking. In fact, their physique leaves little to be desired, and the military hospitals are nearly empty. He then visited the Tokyo Arsenal, where they have the best machinery and are now engaged in providing the army with a magazine rifle, an adaptation of the Mauser pattern, a bolt-action rifle with the magazine under the barrel. As in every other military establishment, the utmost order and cleanliness prevailed in the Arsenal. There are, of course, some shortcomings in the Japanese army, and Colonel BARKER points out that the senior and superior officers are wanting in the early training and experience in subordinate positions so essential to the formation of good commanders, and the professional education of all ranks is somewhat superficial. Nevertheless the progress made in the past twenty-five years must, he says, strike all unprejudiced observers as something truly astonishing. "The staff that could in so short a time have produced results so marvellous must be composed of men of rare intelligence and ability, and the existence of such a staff proves the capacity of the Japanese race for producing in course of time a corps of officers which will be fully equal to modern requirements."

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THE "DENBIGHSHIRE" RUN INTO THE "DENBIGHSHIRE" RUN INTO.

Meant Dodwell, Crill & Co. have received the following telegram from Kobe, dated yesterday:

The *Denbighshire*, while at anchor was run into by a steamer owned by the Osaka Shosha Kaihatsu, the *Yoshinogawa Maru*, of 204 tons net.

The *Denbighshire* was struck on the starboard side abaft the bridge and has her stern compartment

run into by the steamer owned by the Osaka Shosha Kaihatsu, the *Yoshinogawa Maru*, of 204 tons net.

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## THE WEATHER.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER, 10TH OCTOBER, 1883, 4 P.M.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

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Captain Hall will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-DAY, at 12 M. inst., at Noon, and not as previously notified.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LARBAIK &amp; CO.

General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1883. [2128]

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THE Company's Steamer

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Captain Dodd will be despatched on SATURDAY, the 14th inst., at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD &amp; SWIRE,

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Hongkong, 10th October, 1883. [2129]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

(UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT).

STEAM TO SHANGHAI AND KOBE.

THE Company's Steamer

"MARIA VALERIE."

Captain G. Costanzo will be for the above places on the 14th inst., at Noon.

For further particulars, apply to

C. ZANELLA,

Agent.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1883. [2130]

HONGKONG REGISTRY.

Previous day on date On date On date

day &amp; part of day

